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Congress of the United States
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AND TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE

April 22, 2016

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The Honorable Thomas E. Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I write to you regarding the Federal Communications Commission's proposal impacting navigation devices and paid television programming. The comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") for the rule, Expanding Consumers' Video Navigation Choices; Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices, is set to end today, April 22, 2016. After hearing from various stakeholders about this issue, it is clear the proposed rule will have wide-ranging implications for how millions of Americans receive and consume content. As such, the NPRM warrants additional time for fact-finding and information gathering by the Commission. Respectfully, I request an extension in the comment period so that the record may fully reflect the viewpoints of all interested parties and the changing market-place for navigation devices.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to an ongoing dialogue with the Commission on this issue.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 11, 2016

The Honorable Darrell Issa
U.S. House of Representatives
2269 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Issa:

Thank you for your letter requesting that the Federal Communications Commission extend the comment deadline in our rulemaking proceeding examining how to comply with the Communication Act's mandate for consumer choice in the way they access television content.

This February the Commission put out for public comment a proposal that would fulfill the statutory requirement of competitive choice for consumers. This action opened a fact-finding dialog to build a record upon which to base any final decision.

I agree with you that our proposed rules will have "wide-ranging implications for how millions of Americans receive and consume content." In that regard, and despite the Commission's general policy under Section 1.46(a) of our rules to not grant extensions of time routinely, the Commission's Media Bureau did grant a 7-day extension to the comment filing deadline to April 22, 2016, more than two months after the Commission put this proposal out for public comment. The Media Bureau also extended the reply comment filing deadline to May 23, 2016.

While the due dates for initial comments and reply comments have technically passed, as with all of our proceedings, we will continue accepting comments, studies, and observations for the record and engage in constructive conversations with all stakeholders. The record has already reached multiple hundreds of thousands of pages of information and continues to grow. To date, the record contains more than 280,000 filings, the majority of which come from individual consumers, which is why I am confident our proceeding will be the most extensive examination of the subject ever undertaken.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler